



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of

Docket No: Q62523

Yasuo HIMURO

Appln. No.: 09/756,876

Group Art Unit: 1733

Confirmation No.: 6217

Examiner: Steven D. Maki

Filed: January 10, 2001

For: PNEUMATIC TIRES

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from the European Patent Office ("EPO Communication") dated December 12, 2003.

Applicant notes that the December 12, 2003 EPO Communication was previously submitted to the Examiner in a "Supplemental Submission" dated February 26, 2004.

However, upon further review of the December 12, 2003 EPO Communication, it is noted that the European Examiner also discussed EP 1 075 971 (although it was not applied).

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/756,876

Attorney Docket # Q62523

Thus, in order to fully comply with the duty of disclosure, Applicant hereby submits herewith EP 1 075 971 for the Examiner's review (along with another copy of the December 12, 2003 EPO Communication and EP 0 812 709).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore the USPTO is directed to charge the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

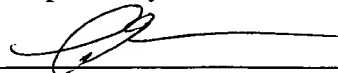
WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 18, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy P. Cremen  
Registration No. 50,855

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/756,876
Confirmation Number	6217
Filing Date	January 10, 2001
First Named Inventor	Yasuo HIMURO
Art Unit	1733
Examiner Name	Steven D. Maki
Attorney Docket Number	Q62523

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	1 075 971	A1	02-14-2001	Bridgestone Corporation	
		EP	0 812 709	A1	12-17-1997	Bridgestone Corporation	

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.